P.W. (1952) Department.

M. SERIES.

G.O. No. 4649

Dated 15-11-1952

[Despatch Abstract.]

Broadcasting — State — Installation and upgrading of Radio station Transmitters in Madras State — G.O.'s Addressed

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Mis.	172	P.W.	20-1-53				

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

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PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

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Letter No. Ms. 4649

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From

Sri T.M.S. Mani, I.C.S.,
Secretary to Government.

To

The Secretary to the Government of India,
Ministry of Information and Broadcasting,
New Delhi.

Dated Fort St. George, the 15th November 1952.

Sir,

Sub: Installation and upgrading of Radio Station Transmitters in Madras State.

I am directed to address the Government of India for favourable consideration of the points mentioned below relating to the upgrading of the ~~xxxxx~~ All India Transmitters in this State:-

From the speech of Sri B.V. Keskar, Union Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting, delivered at Bombay on the 6th July 1952 and appearing in the 'Hindu' dated 7th July 1952, it is observed that in the Five Year Plan of expansion of the All India Radio, six 50 K.W. Transmitters are to be installed at Bombay, Calcutta, Jalundar, Allahabad, Bangalore, and Ahmedabad. All India Radio stations in certain other cities also are to be improved and the power of transmitters increased to 20 K.W. The highest power used for a medium wave transmitter in the Madras State is 5 K.W. at Tiruchirapalli and the rest are rated at 1 K.W. each viz at the medium wave ~~x~~ stations at Madras, Vijayawada and Kozhikode. Of the two short wave transmitters at Madras, one is rated at 10 K.W. and the other at ½ K.W. The Madras State leads all other States in the matter of shcool broadcasts and has already over 500 sets installed in schools. The educational broadcasts of the All India Radio have considerably improved since the time of inception, and it is the ultimate aim of this State Government to see that every school in the State is provided with a radio set in due course.

The ~~xxxx~~ propagation characteristics of radio programmes are such that first class reliable ~~xxxxx~~ service can be given only by medium ~~xx~~ wave transmitters and since the area that can be effectively covered by medium waves, depend largely on the radiated power, it is necessary to have a few medium wave high-powered transmitters in this State or a large number of low power transmitters evenly distributed over the area. Short wave transmitters already installed at Madras can give only a second grade service because of 'fading' which is inherent in the ~~xxxx~~ propagation of short waves. The five medium wave transmitters of low power already installed are of no ~~xx~~ benefit

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to 9 districts and part of 8 districts out of the 25 districts in the whole State-Vide Appendix I. In this connection it may be stated that the area of the south is large and that of the districts larger than districts, in several other states.

Apart from the educational broadcasts mentioned above, this State Government are also maintaining a Rural Broadcasting Department and about 2000 Community sets have already been installed in different places in the State and it is proposed to instal more such sets at the rate of at least 600 a year. These are mostly standard type community sets for the development of community reception, and the power of broadcasting transmitters has to be increased so as to ensure absolutely reliable reception throughout the year in the Madras State. At present, such facilities are very inadequate as not even a single transmitter already installed in the State is of 20 K.W. power and not even one 50 K.W. transmitter has been insalled here as has been already done at Calcutta. A large area of the State is not served with sufficient field strength to warrant reliable reception all the year round.

The Madras State leads all other States in India, except Bombay, in regard to the number of radio licences held by the people. The number of listners in the Madras State is much greater than even in Bombay-Vide Appendix II. Thus, this State is the most radio-minded of all the States in the country, nearly 30% of the listeners in the whole of India being in the Madras State. Yet in the speech of the Union Minister cited above, no reference has been made to the installation of a high power transmitter in Madras, though in the original Eight year Plan of the All India Radio, it was proposed to install two 50 K.W. transmitters at Madras.

A 50 K.W. transmitter has been proposed for installation at Bangalore which will only serve the Kannada speaking area of the Mysore state and the adjoining areas, but not any part of the Madras State because of the language and cultural differences. It has also been the previous experience of this Government that when certain sets in the Bellary and Anantapur Districts (predominently Kannada speaking areas) were tuned to Mysore, the listeners requested that the sets might be tuned to Madras only, thus indicating the necessity for the installation of a high power transmitter at Madras for catering to these districts.

The State Government may have to instal a large number of community sets in areas where community projects are to be undertaken. Adequate facilities have also to be provided for the Rayalaseema area. Thus, in the interests of both educatioal broadcasts and community listening, this Government consider it imperitively necessary to upgrade the existing transmitter stations at Tiruchirapalli, Vijayawada and Kozhikode and to instal high power transmitter station at Madras and in the Rayalaseema area as indicated below:--

(i) Upgrading of existing transmitters at Tiruchirapalli, Vijayawada and Kozhikode to 20 K.W.

(ii) Installation of one 20 K.W. transmitter in the Rayalaseema area.

(iii) Installation of at least one 50 K.W. transmitter at Madras.

This will also help the state-wide dissemination of correct agricultural information, irrigation and weather conditions etc. which this Government have already introduced with the co-operation

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of All India Radio to some extent. A map showing how with the upgrading of the existing transmitters and installation of one more transmitter in Madras and in the Rayalaseema xxx area, the range of reliable radio reception can be increased, is ~~xxxxxxxx~~ enclosed.

In this connection, I am to invite your attention to this Government's letter No.3951 F/46-9 dated 16.10.1947, the last para of letter No.3951 F/46-13 dated 23.6.48 and to this Government's letter No.1121 F/51-6 P.W. dated 23.11.51 in which the Government of India were requested to give due consideration to the requirements of the State in regard to the installation of x high power transmitters and to letter No.25642 F/52-3 P.W. dated 13.8.1952 in which the Government of India were requested to increase the power of transmitters at Kozhikode and Darwar so as to cover the language regions in which those transmitters were situated. The Government of India have since negatived the request of this Government. In the D.O. Letter No.1 (16)/52-BI dated 8.10.1952 the Government of India Ministry of Information and Broadcasting) have proposed to establish at Madras, in the near future, a 10/20 K.W. medium wave Transmitter for local service at Madras and at a later date, two short wave transmitters of 100 K.W. and 20/35 K.W. capacities for National and External Broadcasts. However they have not provided for the upgrading of the Madras station to 50 K.W. immediately for local service and of the Vijayawada, Kozhikode and Tiruchirapalli stations besides the installation of a New Station for the Rayalaseema area.

In the circumstances, I am to request that the orders of the Government of India on the upgrading of transmitter stations and the installation of more high power stations in this State, as indicated above, may be obtained and communicated to this Government, at an early date.

Yours faithfully,

T.M.S. Mani,

Deputy Secretary to Government

Copy to the Chief Engineer (Buildings)
" to the Radio Engineer, State Broadcasting Department, 53, Peters Road, Cathedral, Madras-6.
" to the Education Department.

/true copy/

Superintendent
Madras Record Office

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